

Committee for Respiratory Therapy Education; and

(3) Either—

(i) Be eligible to take the certification examination for respiratory therapy technicians administered by the National Board for Respiratory Therapy, Inc.; or

(ii) Have equivalent training and experience as determined by the National Board for Respiratory Therapy, Inc.

(1) A *social worker* must—

(1) Be licensed by the State in which practicing, if applicable;

(2) Hold at least a bachelor's degree from a school accredited or approved by the Council on Social Work Education; and

(3) Have 1 year of social work experience in a health care setting.

(m) A speech-language pathologist must meet the qualifications set forth in part 484 of this chapter.

[48 FR 56293, Dec. 15, 1982. Redesignated and amended at 50 FR 33034, Aug. 16, 1985; 51 FR 41352, Nov. 14, 1986; 60 FR 2327, Jan. 9, 1995; 72 FR 66408, Nov. 27, 2007; 73 FR 69941, Nov. 19, 2008; 74 FR 62014, Nov. 25, 2009]

#### § 485.74 Appeal rights.

The appeal provisions set forth in part 498 of this chapter, for providers, are applicable to any entity that is participating or seeks to participate in the Medicare program as a CORF.

[48 FR 56293, Dec. 15, 1982, as amended at 52 FR 22454, June 12, 1987]

### Subparts C–E [Reserved]

### Subpart F—Conditions of Participation: Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)

SOURCE: 58 FR 30671, May 26, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 485.601 Basis and scope.

(a) *Statutory basis.* This subpart is based on section 1820 of the Act which sets forth the conditions for designating certain hospitals as CAHs.

(b) *Scope.* This subpart sets forth the conditions that a hospital must meet to be designated as a CAH.

[58 FR 30671, May 26, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 46037, Aug. 29, 1997]

#### § 485.603 Rural health network.

A rural health network is an organization that meets the following specifications:

(a) It includes—

(1) At least one hospital that the State has designated or plans to designate as a CAH; and

(2) At least one hospital that furnishes acute care services.

(b) The members of the organization have entered into agreements regarding—

(1) Patient referral and transfer;

(2) The development and use of communications systems, including, where feasible, telemetry systems and systems for electronic sharing of patient data; and

(3) The provision of emergency and nonemergency transportation among members.

(c) Each CAH has an agreement with respect to credentialing and quality assurance with at least—

(1) One hospital that is a member of the network when applicable;

(2) One QIO or equivalent entity; or

(3) One other appropriate and qualified entity identified in the State rural health care plan.

[58 FR 30671, May 26, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 46035, Aug. 29, 1997; 63 FR 26359, May 12, 1998]

#### § 485.604 Personnel qualifications.

Staff that furnish services in a CAH must meet the applicable requirements of this section.

(a) *Clinical nurse specialist.* A clinical nurse specialist must be a person who—

(1) Is a registered nurse and is licensed to practice nursing in the State in which the clinical nurse specialist services are performed in accordance with State nurse licensing laws and regulations; and

(2) Holds a master's or doctoral level degree in a defined clinical area of nursing from an accredited educational institution.

(b) *Nurse practitioner.* A nurse practitioner must be a registered professional nurse who is currently licensed to practice in the State, who meets the State's requirements governing the qualification of nurse practitioners, and who meets one of the following conditions: